

Comparative Example 1 of the present specification is similar to the Examples of JP 2001-260549. Comparative Example 1 of the present specification is different in using a thermosetting hard coat layer instead of the ultraviolet curable hard coat layer and in containing an ultraviolet absorbent in the hard coat layer from the Examples of JP 2001-260549.

In view of these points, Comparative Example 1 of the present specification is closer to Example 1 of the present invention than the Examples of JP 2001-260549.

A retardation is a character of optical isotropy. If the value of the retardation is small, the optical isotropy is excellent. If the value of the retardation is large, the optical isotropy is inferior.

The value of retardation (R_e) of the pressure sensitive adhesive sheets for protecting surface of Example 1 of the present invention is 6.7. This value is very small. Accordingly, the optical isotropy is very excellent.

On the contrary, the value of retardation (R_e) of the pressure sensitive adhesive sheets for protecting surface of Comparative Example 1 is 2406.7. This value is very large. Accordingly, the optical isotropy is very inferior.

Thus, Applicant submits that the present invention provides unexpectedly superior results and is not obvious for this reason, in addition to being patentable for the reasons of record as set forth in the Amendment filed February 6, 2008.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


Respectfully submitted,

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